HE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ROUND TABLE

THE STRATEGY OF FOOD

A Radio Discussion by JOHN D. BLACK
PAUL R. CANNON *and* T. W. SCHULTZ

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Around the Round Table . . . .

JOHN D. BLACK, professor of economics at Harvard University, attended the Normal School of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin. Besides Harvard University, Professor Black has taught at Western Reserve University, the Michigan College of Mines, the University of Wisconsin, and the University of Minnesota, where he was chief of the Division of Agricultural Economics. He has served as chief economist for the Federal Farm Board, as consultant for the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Tennessee Valley Authority, and as chairman of the Advisory Committee on Agriculture of the Social Science Research Council. He is the author of *Introduction to Production Economics*, *Agricultural Reform in the United States* (1929); *Production Organization* (1929); and *The Dairy Industry and the AAA* (1935); and is joint author of *Three Years of the AAA* (1937) and *Agricultural Index Numbers* (1938). He has also edited various Social Science Research Council publications on agricultural economics and rural sociology.

PAUL R. CANNON, professor and chairman of the department of pathology of the University of Chicago, did his undergraduate work and received his A.B. degree at James Millikin University. He was granted his Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago and received his M.D. at Rush Medical College. Dr. Cannon is president of the American Association of Pathologists and Bacteriologists and a past president of the American Association of Immunologists. He is a member of the Medical Fellowship Board and the Committee on Pathology of the National Research Council. Dr. Cannon is the author of numerous publications in the fields of infectious disease, immunology, and nutrition.

THEODORE W. SCHULTZ, professor and chairman of the department of economics at Iowa State College, received his B.S. degree from South Dakota State College and did his graduate work at the University of Wisconsin, where he received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees. Professor Schultz has taught at the University of Chicago and headed the Rural Social Science Section of the Iowa Agricultural Experimental Station. He is the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the Social Science Research Council and director of the study of personnel in rural social science of the American Council on Education. He is the author of numerous articles on economics, the editor of the *Journal of Farm Economics*, and the author of *The Tariffs on Barley, Oats and Corn* (1933); *Vanishing Farm Markets and Our World Trade* (1935); *Training and Recruiting of Personnel in the Rural Social Studies* (1941); and *Redirecting Farm Policy* (1943).

THE STRATEGY OF FOOD

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MR. CANNON: "The Strategy of Food" is a high-sounding title. The word "strategy" carries with it a military implication. What about the use of this term in our discussion today?

MR. BLACK: For one thing, I do not want to limit our talk to the strategy of the war only. There is a strategy of post-war food as well as of war—just as vital to the peace of the world as winning the war. The two cannot be separated.[1]

MR. CANNON: Do you think that we have time to talk about post-war problems when we still have a war to win?

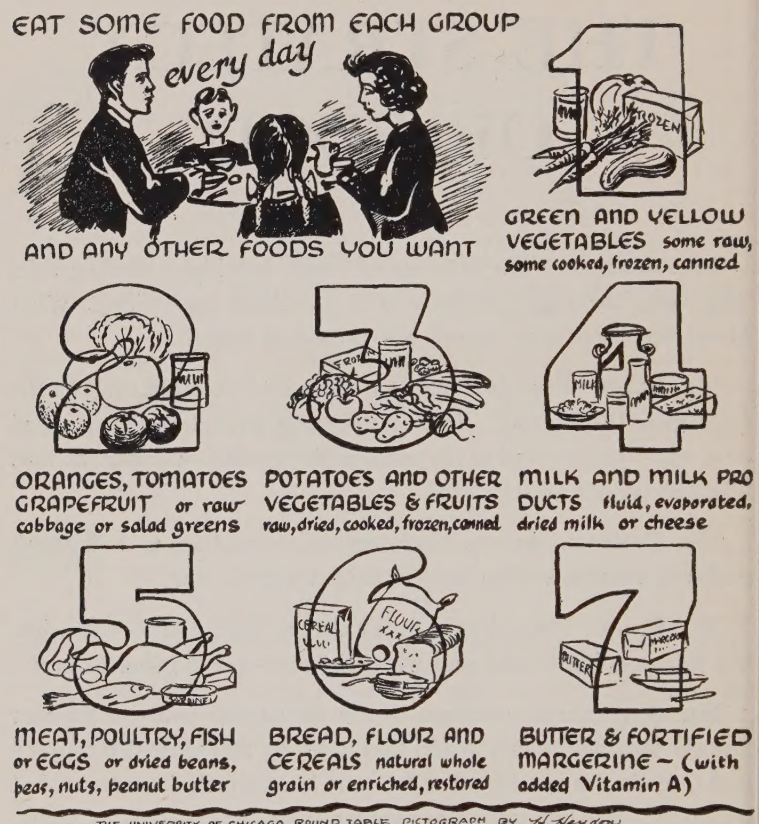
MR. BLACK: I would have to say that we do not know just when the war is going to end and when the post-war is going to begin.

MR. SCHULTZ: In addition to the distinction between the war and the post-war, I should add that in a very real sense this country and Canada are an arsenal of food. It is extremely important that we do explore this important problem here today—that is, really, how to use this arsenal.

MR. CANNON: What do you think about the idea of arsenal? Does that mean that we are going to be the arsenal of the world, or how much help are we going to get from other countries?

MR. SCHULTZ: Your first assertion—that we are going to carry

[1] At the time of the airing of this broadcast, in Hot Springs, Virginia, nearly five hundred delegates, representing over forty countries, are meeting to consider world problems of food production, food distribution, and nutrition.



Source: Adapted from Office of War Information chart.

this whole burden ourselves—is exactly what I do not mean, as I shall want to show later on.

MR. CANNON: The strategy of food raises many questions. A number of them have already come to the ROUND TABLE.

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ANNOUNCER: *Reports are beginning to come out of Europe that famine and disease are on the march.* ROUND TABLE *listeners ask just how hungry is the world? What are the facts about starvation in Europe and in other countries?*

MR. BLACK: First of all, the latest official estimate is that there is a deficiency, compared with the pre-war, of 15 per cent for the continent of Europe as a whole.

MR. SCHULTZ: That figure, however, hides much because it is an average. Underneath there are great variations. My judgment is that we have actual and serious starvation, for example, in Greece and Poland. It is serious enough, but not that serious, for example, in France and Belgium, the Low Countries, and Norway. The food situation in Germany and Italy is much less severe than in these other countries. How about the distinction between the rural and urban?

MR. BLACK: Everybody knows that in wartime, even under rationing and under the most strenuous efforts to collect food from farmers, we do not succeed very well with it. The folks on farms and in villages near the farms are getting much more nearly the food that they need than the folks that are cooped up in cities.

MR. SCHULTZ: So much for differences here. How does one really get an index of what is happening in these countries? Cannon, what is really happening in Greece and Poland, if it as bad as I asserted?

MR. CANNON: We have evidence from the incidence of nutritious disease and infectious disease that starvation is rampant in these countries. For example, in Greece, it has commonly been said that at least 20 per cent of the Greeks have died of starvation and pestilence since the Germans occupied the country. Today we have evidence that nine out of ten babies in Greece die of malnutrition before they are six months of age.[2]

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[2] ". . . . In World War I the collapse of the Central Powers was preceded by a breakdown of the food supplies in the course of which the energy levels of the

MR. SCHULTZ: That certainly is a most serious measure of the seriousness of the food situation in that country, isn't it?

MR. CANNON: Yes. It also gives us an indication that the situation and similar conditions which we had in the other war when the countries began to crack from malnutrition and disease may be developing today.

MR. SCHULTZ: How about Poland?

MR. CANNON: In Poland conditions are probably as bad, if not worse, than they are in Greece. For instance, tuberculosis is on the increase throughout Poland in so far as we can get references from the cities. Typhus is appearing in Poland, and starvation in general is practically decimating the people.

MR. SCHULTZ: Was I right in saying that the situation in France and Belgium and Norway is not as serious?

MR. CANNON: Probably there are isolated instances in which the situation is as serious. For instance, in France and Belgium food is becoming so scarce and rations are so low that many people are getting along on less than twelve hundred calories a day. Cat meat and dog meat are being bought on the black market. The people

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individual German citizen declined. Whereas in pre-war Germany the average daily caloric intake per adult male was over 4,500 calories, during 1917–1918 the average *rationed* diet in many cities yielded less than 1,800 calories. . . . . The resulting slow starvation led inexorably to fatigue, lessened industrial efficiency, lowered morale, unrest, riots, and, finally, revolution. These effects have always tended to follow periods of prolonged famine. There is every reason to believe that they will do so again. Right now the average food consumption in several European countries is far below normal caloric needs. It has been estimated recently that in Belgium the caloric intake is 35 per cent below standard; in Greece and Poland it is lower still. The estimate for France is 25 per cent, for the Netherlands, 20 per cent, for Italy, 15 per cent and for Norway, 10 per cent. Germany, by 'levying' food from her conquered victims has kept her average food ration close to normal standards, but in recent months the Germans, too, have been forced to make severe cuts in the rations to civilians of meats and fats . . . ." (Paul R. Cannon, "Food and the War," Walgreen Lecture, delivered April 14, 1943).

WEEKLY FOOD RATIONS

QUANTITIES GIVEN IN POUNDS (except eggs)	Bread & Flour	Cereals	Potatoes	Meat & " Products	Fats	Cheese	Eggs	Sugar	Coffee & Tea
USA				2½ based on average family consumption~				½	⅕ coffee Tea not rationed
CANADA				2	½ butter only			½	1/16 tea or ¼ coffee
UNITED KINGDOM				1¼	½	⅕	1 egg	½	⅛ tea coffee not rationed
GERMANY	5	⅓	10	¾	½	1/7	½ egg (varies)	½	1/7 coffee substitute
ITALY	2⅓	1¼	2¼	⅓	¼	¼	1 egg	⅓	none
FRANCE	4⅓	1/7	2	½	¼	1/9	un-known	⅓	1/12 coffee-substitute
BELGIUM	3½	1/30	8	½	⅙	un-known	none	1	1/11 coffee substitute
DENMARK	5	½		purchase re-stricted	⅔			1	1/15

INDICATES THAT FOOD IS NOT RATIONED

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO ROUND TABLE PICTOGRAPH BY H. Haydon

Source: *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, April 15, 1943.

are subsisting more and more upon the watery vegetables, such as rutabagas and turnips and squashes, and upon cereals. The condition of carotinemia, the staining of the skin from the ingestion of too large a quantity of carrots, is being reported with increasing frequency.[3]

[3] For moderate physical activity 3,000 calories is generally considered the average daily adult requirement for maintenance of weight and vigor. From this

MR. SCHULTZ: With that serious picture and leaving Germany and Italy for a moment, Black, would you compare the other war and this war in terms of the food development as you see it?

MR. BLACK: I think that our enemies, Germany and Italy, are better fed this time than they were last time. They know more about nutrition.

MR. SCHULTZ: Does that mean that Germany is going to crack because of low food supplies?

MR. BLACK: No, but I think that some disease is already appearing in some measure in Germany. They do not have perfectly equal distribution of food among all the population. There are considerable groups in Germany that are not being well fed, and they are beginning to show disease. As the war goes on, there is going to be more and more of it.

MR. CANNON: As a matter of fact, there is recent evidence that such diseases as typhus, tuberculosis, diphtheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, and dysentery are increasing in Germany right now.

MR. SCHULTZ: Really, then, we are saying that, while it is not nearly so serious in the enemy countries, it nevertheless is also becoming a major factor in the course of the war. How about the specific kinds of foodstuffs? We put a great deal of emphasis nowadays upon vitamins. Is that the basic thing that is lacking in the diets of these countries?

MR. CANNON: No, it isn't. Of course, the foods that are most deficient at the present time are the fats and the protein foods. Not only is that true in Germany but it is particularly true in the occupied countries. The fats furnish the greatest amount of energy, but the proteins are especially important from the standpoint of resist-

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requirement there can be no prolonged reduction. If there is, the price paid is decreased vigor and, in time, an increased tendency to disease. In war the usual caloric needs become greater. A nutrition yardstick, prepared in light of present-day evaluations, has been recently outlined by the Food and Nutrition Board of the National Research Council.

ance to disease, because we know now that the antibodies upon which we depend for our resistance to disease are proteins and can be formed only from proteins coming into the body in the food. Therefore, when people are compelled to subsist for long periods of time on protein-deficient diets, they inevitably reach a point at which they cannot form antibodies adequately in the time of need. That is why this protein deficiency is so serious throughout the warring countries.[4]

MR. SCHULTZ: Protein is found in certain parts of meats, eggs, milk, and, of course, soybeans and dried beans and peas.

MR. CANNON: Animal proteins and vegetable proteins are perhaps equally important, although we cannot say too definitely in regard to that.

MR. SCHULTZ: I have a feeling here that when we put these medical facts before us we may somewhat overdraw the seriousness, if that is possible, of the dietary deficiency, or the degree of starva-

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[4] "In the field of infectious diseases scientific evidence indicates a reason why malnutrition leads to decreased resistance to infectious agents. Recently we have learned the chemical composition of antibodies, the materials essential for the acquisition of increased resistance to microbic agents. These antibodies are now known to be globulins, formed by the body's cells and transferred to the blood and lymph as antibody-globulins. A molecule of globulin is a complex protein compounded by the aggregation of many amino acids into a so-called polypeptide chain. Although a complete analysis of globulin has not as yet been made, we know that it contains at least fourteen of the twenty-odd amino acids, including six or more of the essential ones. The essential amino acids are so-called because the body cannot form them itself but must get them preformed in the food. This means that antibody-globulin cannot be synthesized unless the individual has available in his diet a large assortment of amino acids, including several of the essential ones. This necessitates a reasonably omnivorous diet; in states of undernutrition and starvation, however, such a diet is impossible and the body can no longer fabricate antibodies effectively. It is not surprising, therefore, that appallingly high death rates are now occurring in the starving peoples of the occupied countries. The amino acids of the food must come from proteins, and protein scarcity constitutes a serious menace to every starving person, but particularly to the growing young" (Paul R. Cannon, "Food and the War," Walgreen Lecture, delivered April 14, 1943).

tion, that is taking place in Europe. We may picture it in terms that sound as if there will be a quick disintegration in terms of military force. Black, I wonder if you concur with that.

MR. BLACK: Yes, but I would be inclined to question the extreme form in which Cannon has stated it. There, of course, is evidence that populations—take the Puerto Ricans, for example—have lived for generations on diets as deficient as Cannon has talked about. We know that they are weak, that they lack endurance, and that they have spindly legs, but they have good teeth, and they get along on a diet which is just above the clinical level.

MR. CANNON: But certainly the Germans are, at the present time, getting a diet almost adequate from the caloric value, and there is no indication as yet, it seems to me, that they are near the cracking point. Do you agree with that, Schultz?

MR. SCHULTZ: That is the very important point that I was playing for, because I think that we have to be careful that we do not raise false notions as to what may be coming. I have a feeling that, while the food situation is certainly serious, the question really is

how soon it will become critical. It may deteriorate rather rapidly in the next twelve months or in a shorter period ahead.

I wonder, leaving Europe, about other areas of the world that are important in asking ourselves about how hungry the world is. I would say that in the case of Australia and New Zealand there is a lot of food. It is an area with a high food potential.

MR. CANNON: On the other hand, don't you think that, from reports we are getting in, the situation in China is getting very serious now?

MR. BLACK: Yes, I expect that it is. The continuation of war and the overrunning of important food areas by the Japanese are creating a situation which is increasingly serious.

MR. CANNON: What do you think about the problem of food for the Japanese? Do you think that there is any possibility that we may starve Japan out?

MR. BLACK: Not a chance in the world.

MR. SCHULTZ: Absolutely not.

MR. BLACK: They seem to have captured most of the food that the Chinese ought to have.

MR. SCHULTZ: The point that Black is making is that the Japanese certainly are long on food and that they are doing, apparently, a very good job nutritionally. The Chinese are very short. There is just no doubt about it.

How about ourselves?

MR. CANNON: I think that there is no evidence whatever of danger that the United States will be anywhere near the point of starvation.

MR. SCHULTZ: I would say that most of us—two-thirds of us or more—are eating better than we ever have before. Isn't that substantially correct?

MR. BLACK: Yes, I would agree. But we must not overlook the fact that a sizable fraction of the people of the country has not had the increased incomes equal to the rise in the cost of living. Those people are finding it hard to buy as good a diet as they used to buy.

MR. SCHULTZ: That's right.

MR. BLACK: But they do not weigh so much in the national average as the improved diets of those that are living better.

MR. CANNON: In so far as we have gone, does it not seem obvious that the devastating effects of mass starvation will make the problem of food more and more vital for millions of people now caught in the stranglehold of total war? Is it not true that the cruelest blows will fall particularly upon the children of the coming generation? The Archbishop of Canterbury has recently said that the great danger is that at the end of the war we shall find a relatively vigorous Germany surrounded by peoples so weakened by starvation as to present an inevitable drawback to after-war plans.

MR. SCHULTZ: That states the case of how hungry the world is very well. Let us now turn to the second question on strategy of food.

ANNOUNCER: *What is our food strategy? That is, what is being done now by the United Nations to maintain health and nutritional standards among the Allies?*

MR. SCHULTZ: I have the impression that the United Kingdom is doing a first-class job in handling its internal food problems. Am I right in that?[5]

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[5] According to the British Information Services, Britain before the war produced one-third of her food. Now she is producing two-thirds. At the same time there has been little increase in the number of farm workers, and nearly 60,000 members of the Women's Land Army have released men on farms for the fighting forces. During the autumn plowing season of 1942, work was done on many farms by night as well as by day. Mechanization of farming in Britain has increased almost 100 per cent since before the war. In 1939, for instance, she had 50,000 tractors; today she has 120,000. She now produces enough sugar beets

MR. BLACK: Yes, I think that we can well look to what has been done in the United Kingdom as an example of what could be and can be done in this country if we are forced to do it.

MR. CANNON: How long have they been at this planning, would you say?

MR. BLACK: About four years before the war began.

MR. SCHULTZ: And very intensively since the war has started?

MR. BLACK: That's right. They had their rationing plans all worked out almost a whole year before the war began.

MR. CANNON: It seems to me that the remarkable thing about the results in England is that after four years of restricted diets, in the usual sense, the incidence of most infectious diseases has been lower than it was before the war. Only tuberculosis has increased, and slightly as far as I know.

MR. SCHULTZ: You are using your same index of the medical history of diseases that you used for the rest of Europe?

MR. CANNON: That's right.

MR. SCHULTZ: It is thus very much in their favor.

From the agricultural point of view, the fact that although they got only a third of their food from their own production before the war and that they now get almost two-thirds is a remarkable accomplishment in changing the whole economy.

MR. BLACK: Equally important is the fact that they have shifted it into the lines of production that were very important from a nutritional standpoint.

MR. SCHULTZ: In order to save shipping and to save shipping space on the high seas.

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for her present sugar consumption; is self-supporting on potatoes; produces 30 per cent more vegetables than before the war; has increased her wheat average by 50 per cent; has produced ten million gallons more milk in the first half of 1942 than the average for that period, 1935–38; and so on.

Reprinted with courtesy of British Information Services.

MR. BLACK: Yes, but I am thinking about nutrition now. Potatoes are very important as a supplement to what the British would normally have in their diet, so they doubled their production and consumption in potatoes.

MR. CANNON: How much help do you think that Great Britain has had from the sending of protein materials from this country—dehydrated meat, eggs, and the like?

MR. BLACK: They have had a great deal of help, but Great Britain's own supply of protein is higher than it is ordinarily supposed to be. We have helped, with the result that the protein in the British diet is as high as that in the United States at present.

Of course, when one compares the diets of Great Britain and the United States, most people think of the diets of the people in the North in the United States. No doubt those are better than the British. But if we average our southern and our northern diets, they are no better than the British diets today.

MR. SCHULTZ: The upshot is that today the British Ministry of Food, having tackled this heroic task in terms of their war and the situation they were confronted with, has been so successful that it is really considered with great favor. It really is one of the most appreciated ministries, as I understand it, in the British government.

That speaks very highly for what the United Kingdom has accomplished inside.

I would say equally positively that our record on Lend-Lease, the fiscal machinery that we set up early, and the things that the Canadians have done are also a rather remarkable record on what has been done in behalf of food in international shipments.[6] I am thinking here of the Canadians' having exported an excess of seven hundred and fifty million dollars' worth to the United Kingdom in 1941. In 1942 their excess of exports was one billion dollars. Now they are going on a Lend-Lease basis also. That is a second big category in which I would say the United Nations have been very successful in tackling this food problem.

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[6] ". . . . For the year ending December 31, 1942, the Lend-Lease Administration delivered more than nine and a half billion pounds of farm products for shipment, and this figure represents a still greater quantity of foodstuffs produced, since many were shipped in concentrated form. In addition to stocking the 'United Nations pantry' with various items designed to complete a nutritious diet, the United States—together with Great Britain—has been sending food and clothing to North Africa in the wake of the Allied invasion. Although the many thousands of tons of materials sent to North Africa to date are but a small part of the amount that will be needed, this quantity is significant not only because it marks the first effort of the United States to supply a liberated country, but also because it indicates the potential use of lend-lease as a means of carrying on post-war relief . . . ." (Ona K. D. Ringwood and Winifred N. Hadsel, "U.S. Plans for Food Relief in World War II," *Foreign Policy Reports*, March 15, 1943).

How about North Africa, in which we have taken over occupied countries? I have a feeling that that ought to be examined at this point.

MR. BLACK: Yes. It is the first example that we really have of stepping into a country which is reconquered. It is thus extremely interesting and significant to look to see what has happened there. Of course, it is under military government at the present time. The United Nations governments and the armies have the food. The armies are sending it into Tunisia. It is important that it has gone in under the flags of all the United Nations.

MR. SCHULTZ: That is a very important point. It has gone in not as food from the United States or from Great Britain or elsewhere but as food from the United Nations. That's your point, isn't it?

MR. BLACK: Exactly.

MR. CANNON: Do you have any idea how much food has gone into North Africa? Is it a sizable amount or merely a dribble?

MR. BLACK: Not very much as yet.

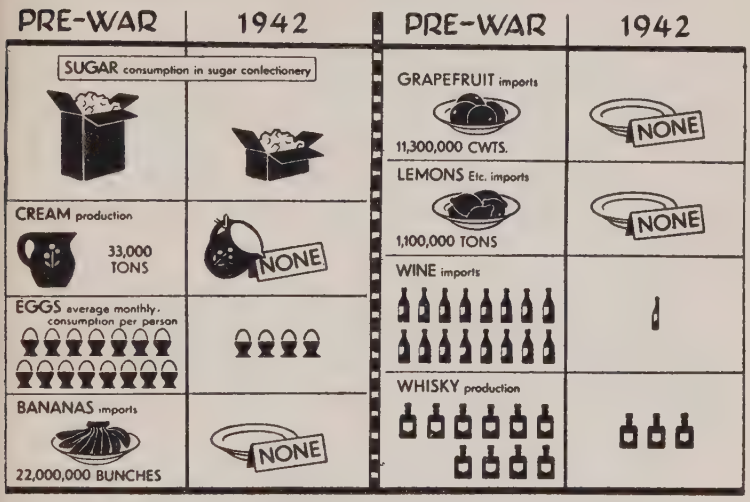
MR. SCHULTZ: I think that we ought also to acknowledge the fact here that we have contributed rather substantially, particularly with food, to the Russian Army, on what has come out of the United States on Lend-Lease. We should, also, it seems to me, specifically point out the fact that at home we have not done so good a job as they have done in the United Kingdom. We shall have to explore that, it seems to me, directly.

The upshot of what is being done now, I should say again, then, looking first inside the United Kingdom, has been a remarkable job. Our Lend-Lease machinery, and that of the Canadians, is also to our credit. Bringing in food under the United Nations' flags in Tunisia is certainly excellent.

But we look at the home picture, and we are not so sure that an excellent job has been done at this point.

JOHN BULL IS PULLING IN HIS BELT!

Examples of Food Restriction in Great Britain



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MR. BLACK: On that point, now, how good a job have we done in this country? What about the production end of it, where we have made some significant shifts in what we produce in this country in the desired direction?

ANNOUNCER: *Many* ROUND TABLE *listeners ask, "Are the United Nations doing enough? What more needs to be done? What is Uncle Sam's responsibility to make the strategy of food fully effective?"*

MR. SCHULTZ: How important is it? I find myself saying that it is exceedingly important that these people whom we have been talking about get food. How do you appraise that situation, Cannon?

MR. CANNON: All we can say, it seems to me, is that we know from what is going on now and from the great extent of starvation that conditions are getting steadily worse. The disease incidence is

increasing, and the death rates are stepping up. Therefore, whatever may be said in regard to the importance of food now may be said with greater emphasis for the importance of food in the postwar period.[7]

MR. BLACK: I should like to approach that same problem from another angle. I think that it is highly important that we are able to set up some responsible governments in Europe at the end of the war, so that we do not have hungry mobs, marauding over Europe for months and months, as happened last time—hungry people that don't reason.

MR. SCHULTZ: It is very, very significant to get that view. It seems to me that that really states the self-interest that we have in this food problem. We have to establish order, and food certainly is going to play a very big role in that process.

MR. CANNON: Certainly in all the famines of the past, rebellions and revolutions have followed the famines if they lasted long enough. We can predict that the same thing will happen now if we do not do something to prevent it, can we not?

MR. SCHULTZ: Coming back to the very outset of our discussion here this afternoon, you asked me if I believed that it is the burden and the responsibility of the United States to carry the whole load in another international WPA, or something like that.

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[7] ". . . . Supplementing the government's lend-lease program is the new Office of Relief and Rehabilitation under the direction of Herbert H. Lehman, former Governor of New York. In creating this organization on November 21, 1942, President Roosevelt announced that it would send aid not only to countries that are liberated from the control of the Axis at the end of the war but also to those that are freed before that time. Since his appointment, Mr. Lehman has named a staff who are well acquainted with relief and rehabilitation problems in the Far East, the islands of the Pacific, Europe, Africa, and Russia. Plans have also been made for administrating an initial federal appropriation of more than $500,000,000 for food, clothing, medical supplies and farm equipment when the United States Army invades Europe. It is not known as yet whether the office will administer or supervise the work in any one or all of these areas, for this depends largely on the organization of the United Nations after the war . . . ." (*ibid.*).

Office of War Information.

MR. CANNON: If you understand my "responsibility," that is right.

MR. SCHULTZ: I said emphatically "No!" While I think that we have a great stake in this whole matter, as you and Black have said, I do want to assert here that it is a collective job and a collective task. Black, do you concur with me?

MR. BLACK: Yes, I very much feel that way about it. Not only is it a job for the United States and the other three major partners in the enterprise but all the other nations that are going to be involved in this must join forces with us.

MR. CANNON: How do you think that we can go about solving this problem of getting aid to these countries in the rehabilitation?

MR. BLACK: The immediate problem, of course, is getting food

in during the period immediately after the armies go in. I think that that will have to be handled temporarily by the armies. I would hope that in many of these countries there is already in existence rationing machinery which can be revamped as necessary to handle that end of it.

MR. CANNON: Who will manage that, the military or the non-military authorities? What do you think, Schultz?

MR. SCHULTZ: In order to gain perspective here, don't we have to say this in terms of three stages? We have the stage of feeding the reoccupied countries. That comes first. There you would want to use the local machinery and move on. There is the bigger task of feeding Europe when it is conquered, which then brings Germany and Italy into the picture certainly.

MR. CANNON: Do you think we should feed the Germans and Italians immediately?

MR. SCHULTZ: Let me move to the third of these issues. There is, finally, the actual post-war period—that is, the food and nutrition when the war ends.

Now, answering your question, it seems to me that we must realize, if we take our first point seriously, that we have an important stake in promoting order and peaceful procedures in these countries and that we must be prepared not as the United States alone but as the United Nations to take a responsibility in food in all three of these stages.

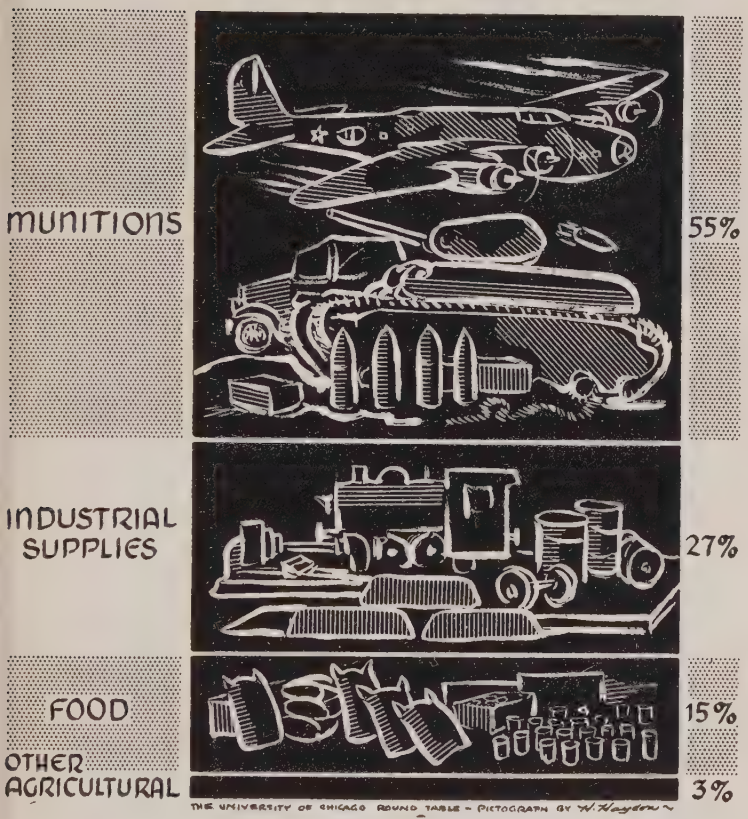
MR. BLACK: I think that that is very much true.

To go back to the question of Germany that Cannon raised. I think that it is more important to the peace of the world to have an effective, orderly government set up in Germany than in any other country of Europe. We flunked out on that last time, and we must not do it again. Italy is in the same category.

MR. SCHULTZ: I find myself really turning sharply to what needs to be done at once, and I find myself listing three or four things.

TOTAL LEND-LEASE AID*

March, 1941—March 31, 1943



* Total goods transferred equaled $8,494,135,000, divided as follows: munitions, $4,685,425,000; industrial products, $2,253,609,000; food, $1,268,991,000; and other agricultural products, $286,110,000.

Food for the Soviet Army and the British production workers made up more than 90 per cent of the $1,268,991,000 of Lend-Lease food transferred to date. This year (1943) as much food will go to Russia as to Great Britain. Last year, Lend-Lease food shipments were about 6 per cent of the total food supply of the United States.

First, we must improve and extend rationing and be prepared to continue it for some time after the war, as the British are prepared to continue it. I put that very high on the list. Secondly, we must be prepared to continue Lend-Lease. It is doing a swell job now, and it should be continued, at least for a time after the war. I should say that we ought at once to create international machinery here that goes further than our present machinery, which is still on a two-nation basis in the main. We have to get to a United Nations' basis. Lastly, I should say that we ought to shift our production and consumption inside. Does that strike you as the more significant areas in which things must be done?

MR. BLACK: I think that that covers the situation very well indeed.

MR. CANNON: What do you think about the possibilities of Americans in general subscribing to these points that you have suggested? Do we have adequate food reserves? Do you think that we will be willing to make the sacrifices to build them up?

MR. SCHULTZ: You ask the question of me. It seems to me that here is really where we have to have more understanding. We have to get the facts before us. We have to think about them. We have to see our joint responsibility before we can expect these attitudes to arise among American housewives and farmers and other American people—laborers and so on.

MR. BLACK: I would say that all the food needed can be produced and can be distributed. It will not call for any more agricultural output than the farmers of the United States and of the other United Nations would like to produce.

MR. SCHULTZ: One of the very serious points about the American attitudes is the situation that we have politically in terms of large pressure blocs, where labor is making food a matter of postwar strategy of its position, and the farm bloc is doing somewhat the same. It does not give us a promise of a very excellent or a very satisfactory approach to this in national politics.

MR. BLACK: We have reached the point where we can bring our discussion into some kind of a summary fashion. We can say that there is nothing in what has been proposed here about changing our eating and shifting our production which is half as important to the United States and to the people of the United Nations as getting orderly governments set up in Europe and getting essential foods into the bodies of millions of underfed people.

Some symbol of international agency is needed for this—some agency that concerns itself with food alone. This same type of agency can later, especially in the post-war period, arrange to exchange food supplies and even arrange in advance to have needed foods produced.

There is nothing unreal about all this. This is entirely within the possibilities of what the United States and the other United Nations can do in the way of reorganizing their production and of adjusting their consumption.

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What Do *You* Think?

1. What are the facts on hunger in Europe? To what extent are these facts dependable? How widespread are malnutrition and disease in the Axis-occupied countries?
2. What are the results of poor nutrition? What is the relation between famine and disease? Why is it necessary for the body to have a sufficient supply of protein foods if infectious diseases are to be successfully resisted?
3. Is the United States government's present policy on food production satisfactory? Are farm prices successfully being kept at levels that insure the greatest production of the most-needed foods? Why is it important that the price of skimmed milk be raised so that, instead of being fed to hogs, it will be processed into dried milk?
4. Should Americans shift their diet to foods that have a lower labor cost such as cereals and away from meat products? Would such a diet be adequate?
5. To what degree should the United States accept and share the responsibility for feeding the millions of people suffering as a result of the war? Should a program of strict food rationing be continued within the United States after the war in order to aid in feeding the world?
6. In your opinion should the United States participate with other nations in setting up and supporting an international organization to raise world standards of nutrition? Do you approve the present Lend-Lease program of shipping food to Britain, Russia, etc.?
7. What are the obstacles that stand in the way of viewing food as a world resource? Do you think that extending aid and supplying food to some of the suffering people will result in impoverishing the United States? Do you agree with some who say that, in the desire to aid the British and Russian people, the United States at present is sending food abroad that really cannot be spared? Discuss.
8. Should the United Nations set up an International Food Office? Should such an international organization be merely a fact-finding body or should it actively attempt to see that the food surpluses of one nation are made available to the malnourished peoples of another nation? What are the difficulties in the path of such action? Discuss.

The People Say . . . .

The following letters are representative of the views expressed by the ROUND TABLE *audience on "Are We Holding the Line?" broadcast May 16, 1943.*

*

Pre-war Inequities

. . . . The problem of "correcting gross inequities as an aid in prosecuting the war" is thus directly involved in the impossibility of "holding the line" against a rising cost of living, which is impossible precisely because of the gross inequity of the pre-war position of the farm group, particularly as it involves that marginal wage whereby adequate food production is determined. Labor interests hide this disparity behind percentage-change figures and the indefensible plea that "basic" urban wage rates rather than earnings must be maintained against rising prices. They also aver, it seems, that inequities cannot be "gross" except in groups that are organized, so that farm wages need no correction because it is the same kind of work. . . . . —*A listener from Bethesda, Maryland.*

*

Forced Savings

I wish to suggest that the government issue bonds like we are now buying and make them payable only after five years from the date of issue. By so doing, a lot of money could be mopped up and saved, and the government would have the use of it. These could be imposed on the people like taxes—the only difference being that they could get their money back in five years. That, to my mind, would make a lot of people self-supporting in a time when they would need it most. . . . .—*A listener from Detroit, Michigan.*

*

Post-war Dangers

I was glad to hear mentioned the danger of throwing off wartime controls carelessly at the end of the war. It seems to me that this applies not only in the economic field, where the danger of inflation will still linger, but also in a broader moral sense. A sudden throwing-off of the spirit of patriotic sacrifice which now generally prevails and abandoning ourselves to wild individualism in business, politics, and social relations would seriously hamper the most important part of our war effort—post-war reconstruction. Common interests on which to base a united effort to attain effectively even the most clearly indicated social reforms will be difficult enough to find with this threatened selfish and reactionary thoughtlessness.—*A listener from Toronto, Ontario.*

*

Farm Bloc *Does* Represent

The farmers are thankful that they

have a farm bloc who *is* representing them. Just because you and the rest of the nation have been used to pushing the farmer around, you think we have no right to be heard. When we are heard, you charge that it's not representing the true feelings of most of the farmers. . . . .—*A listener from Walbridge, Ohio.*

*

Transfer to Politicians

As I listened to your discussion today, I was dumbfounded at what you are trying to put over in the minds of the people. You speak as if this money you so glibly take away from the poor man who works hard to earn it will be destroyed or put out of circulation so it won't have any purchasing power. As a matter of fact, it is simply transferring the purchasing power from the man who earns the money to the politicians who do not earn it. . . . .—*A listener from Los Angeles, California.*

*

Stop Presses

There is only one way to solve this inflation problem and that is by stopping the printing-press money and gathering up at least half of that money and putting it in the furnace and then prosecute the so-called "trusts" that control prices by their influence with the government. . . . . The law of supply and demand is true of money as well as with commodities, for money is nothing more than a medium of exchange. When the banks control the money, they, instead of the government, cause the fluctuation of the exchange prices by law instead of by supply and demand. . . . .—*A listener from Portland, Oregon.*

*

Pay as We Go?

Could we pay for the war completely on a pay-as-you-go basis? In other words, could we squeeze seventy or eighty billion dollars from our economic structure without fatally injuring it? . . . . By and large we are paying the war as we fight it. . . . .—*A listener from Camp Chaffee, Arkansas.*

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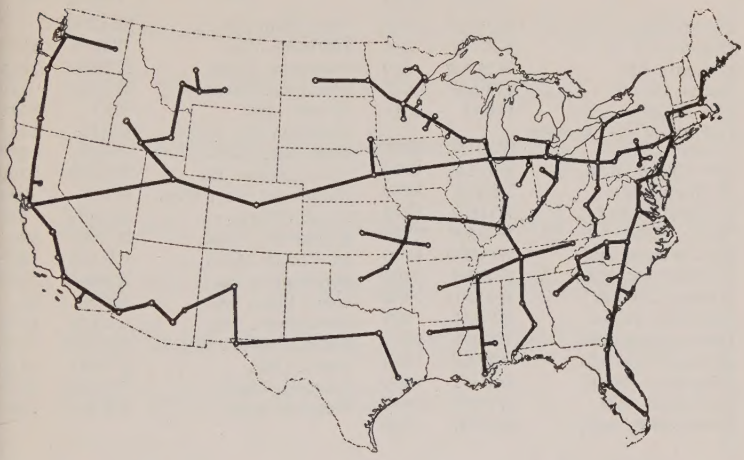

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2:00 P.M. EASTERN WAR TIME

City	*Call Letters*	*Kilo-cycles*	*City*	*Call Letters*	*Kilo-cycles*
Allentown, Pa.	WSAN	1470	Martinsville, Va.	WMVA	1450
Altoona, Pa.	WFBG	1340	Miami, Fla.	WIOD	610
Asheville, N.C.	WISE	1400	New York, N.Y.	WEAF	660
Atlanta, Ga.	WSB	750	Norfolk, Va.	WTAR	790
Bluefield, W.Va.	WHIS	1440	Philadelphia, Pa.	KYW	1060
Boston, Mass.	WBZ	1030	Pittsburgh, Pa.	KDKA	1020
Charleston, S.C.	WTMA	1250	Portland, Me.	WCSH	970
Charleston, W.Va.	WGKV	1490	Providence, R.I.	WJAR	920
Charlotte, N.C.	WSOC	1240	Raleigh, N.C.	WPTF	680
Cincinnati, Ohio	WLW	700	Reading, Pa.	WEEU	850
Clarksburg, W.Va.	WBLK	1400	Richmond, Va.	WMBG	1380
Cleveland, Ohio	WTAM	1100	Rochester, N.Y.	WHAM	1180
Columbia, S.C.	WIS	560	Savannah, Ga.	WSAV	1340
Detroit, Mich.	WWJ	950	Springfield, Mass.	WBZA	1030
Florence, S.C.	WOLS	1230	Springfield, Ohio	WIZE	1340
Grand Rapids, Mich.	WOOD	1300	Syracuse, N.Y.	WSYR	570
Greenville, S.C.	WFBC	1330	Tampa, Fla.	WFLA	970
Greenwood, S.C.	WCRS	1450	Toledo, Ohio	WSPD	740
Jacksonville, Fla.	WJAX	930	Washington, D.C.	WRC	980
Johnstown, Pa.	WJAC	1400	Williamsport, Pa.	WRAK	1400
Harrisburg, Pa.	WKBO	1230	Wilmington, Del.	WDEL	1150
Lakeland, Fla.	WLAK	1340	Winston-Salem, N.C.	WSJS	600
Lima, Ohio	WLOK	1240	York, Pa.	WORK	1350

1:00 P.M. CENTRAL WAR TIME

City	Call Letters	Kilocycles	City	Call Letters	Kilocycles
Birmingham, Ala.	WBRC	960	Louisville, Ky.	WAVE	970
Bismark, N.D.	KFYR	550	Madison, Wis.	WIBA	1310
Chicago, Ill.	WMAQ	670	Mankato, Minn.	KYSM	1230
Dallas, Texas	WFAA	820	Memphis, Tenn.	WMC	790
Des Moines, Iowa	WHO	1040	Mobile, Ala.	WALA	1410
Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis.	WEBC	1320	Montgomery, Ala.	WSFA	1440
Eau Claire, Wis.	WEAU	1070	Nashville, Tenn.	WSM	650
El Paso, Texas	KSTM	1380	New Orleans, La.	WSMB	1350
Evansville, Ind.	WGBF	1280	Oklahoma City, Okla.	WKY	930
Fargo, N.D.	WDAY	970	Omaha, Neb.	WOW	590
Fort Wayne, Ind.	WOWO	1190	Rochester, Minn.	KROC	1340
Hattiesburg, Miss.	WFOR	1400	St. Cloud, Minn.	KFAM	1450
Hibbing, Minn.	WMFG	1240	Shreveport, La.	KTBS	1480
Houston, Texas	KPRC	950	Sioux Falls, S.D.	KSOO	1140
Indianapolis, Ind.	WIRE	1430	Springfield, Mo.	KGBX	1260
Kansas City, Mo.	WDAF	610	Terre Haute, Ind.	WBOW	1230
Kingsport, Tenn.	WKPT	1400	Tulsa, Okla.	KVOO	1170
La Crosse, Wis.	WKBH	1410	Virginia, Minn.	WHLB	1400
Little Rock, Ark.	KARK	920	Wichita, Kan.	KANS	1240

12:00 M. MOUNTAIN WAR TIME

Albuquerque, N.M.	KOB	1030	Phoenix, Ariz.	KTAR	620
Billings, Mont.	KGHL	790	Pocatello, Ida.	KSEI	930
Boise, Ida.	KIDO	1380	Safford, Ariz.	KGLU	1450
Bozeman, Mont.	KRBM	1450	Salt Lake City, Utah	KDYL	1320
Butte, Mont.	KGIR	1370	Tucson, Ariz.	KVOA	1290
Denver, Colo.	KOA	850	Twin Falls, Ida.	KTFI	1270
Helena, Mont.	KPFA	1240	Yuma, Ariz.	KYUM	1240

11:00 A.M. PACIFIC WAR TIME

Bakersfield, Cal.	KERN	1410	Sacramento, Cal.	KFBK	1530
Fresno, Cal.	KMJ	580	San Diego, Cal.	KFSD	600
Los Angeles, Cal.	KFI	640	San Francisco, Cal.	KPO	680
Medford, Ore.	KMED	1440	Seattle, Wash.	KOMO	950
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BASCH, ANTONIN, "Reconstruction in Central-Eastern Europe," *Free World*, April, 1943.

EMERSON, SIR HERBERT, "Postwar Problems of Refugees," *Foreign Affairs*, January, 1943.

STASSEN, HAROLD E., "We Need a World Government," *Saturday Evening Post*, May 22, 1943.

STEENBERGHE, M. P. L., "The Future of Western Europe," *Vital Speeches*, April 1, 1943.

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